Compensate Appointments for Kargil Victims

2756. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many people have been given compensate appointments for the Kargil war victims who have laid down their lives;

(b) whether it is a fact that many victims are yet to get the compensation from Government; and

(c) if so, by when this process will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Information is being collected.

(b) and (c) Families of all Kargil martyrs have been given the financial and other benefits they are entitled to, on completion of necessary formalities.

MES Criticism Over Posting

2757. SHRI CHUNNAI LAL CHAUDHARY :Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the severe criticism of MES for its inefficiency in posting of Army CEs without requisite experience/qualification in violation of accepted recommendations of Estimates Committee appears to be the reasonable;

(b) if so, how many CEs have been posted during the last seven years without doing a tenure of (i) GE (ii) CWE (iii) GE & CEW and (iv) without possessing degree in Civil/Mechanical/Electrical Engineering, and

(c) the reasons as to why Civilian officers cannot be given more posts of CEs as apart of progressive civilianisation in case Army officers with requisite experience and qualification are not available as recommended by Fifth Central Pay Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A total of 48 Brigadiers of the Corps of Engineers, with recognised degree in Engineering, have been posted as CEs in MES in the last 7 years. Out of these, 23 Officers had no previous experience of CE/CWE.

(c) The number of civilian CEs has recently been increased from 17 to 23 as a result of the Second Cadre Review of Indian Defence Engineers Service (IDES).